

**REMARKS**

In the present Amendment, claim 3 has been amended to further recite that --at least one selected from the group consisting of inorganic conductive materials, organic antistatic agents and organic conductive materials is contained in or applied to the heat-expandable pressure-sensitive adhesive layer--. This amendment is supported by the specification, for example, in the paragraphs bridging pages 16 and 17, and 18 and 19.

Claims 6-11 have been added as new claims. Claim 6 is supported by the specification, for example, in the paragraph bridging pages 16 and 17. Claim 7 is supported by the specification, for example, at page 22, 1st full paragraph. Claim 8 is supported by the specification, for example, in the paragraph bridging pages 20 and 21 and working Example 3. Claims 9-11 are the same as claims 2, 4 and 5 but dependent from new claim 7.

Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the Amendment, Claims 2-11 will be all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 2-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over JP 11-166164 or Applicants' "admitted prior art" in view of the complete English translation of JP 9201910.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are patentable over the cited references for at least the following reasons.

JP '910 discloses a pressure-sensitive adhesive having low electric resistance obtained by using a "reactive" emulsifier in the polymerization process.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)  
U.S. Appn. No. 09/853,787  
Attorney Docket No. Q64434

In contrast, in the present invention, a conductive material is contained in or applied, for example, laminated, to a polymer obtained, or applied to the substrate, thereby decreasing electric resistance.

JP '910 does not disclose or suggest the above-mentioned feature of the present invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not obvious over the cited references, and therefore the rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Fang Liu  
Registration No. 51,283

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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